

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

January 11, 2001

Carson Ross, Treasurer Graves for Congress 110 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street Tarkio, MO 64491

Identification Number:

C00359034

Reference:

12 Day Pre-General Report (10/1/00-10/18/00)

Dear Mr. Ross:

This letter is to inform you that as of January 10, 2001, the Commission has not received your response to our request for additional information, dated December 19, 2000. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to this request (copy enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by January 31, 2001. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Christopher Whyrick on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson

Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division



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Carson Ross, Treasurer Graves for Congress 110 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street Tarkio, MO 64491

Identification Number:

C00359034

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Reference: 12 Day Pre-General Report (10/01/00-10/18/00)

Dear Mr. Ross:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Your report contains financial activity disclosed on a subsequent report. Overlapping coverage dates create difficulties in tracking the committee's cash flow. Please amend this report to include only the financial transactions that occurred between 10/01/00 and 10/18/00. (2 U.S.C. §434(b))

On Schedule A of this report, you have not itemized all of the necessary contributor information. You must provide the date, aggregate year-to-date total, election designation, amount of contribution, and partnership attribution (if necessary) for each itemized receipt. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Please amend your report to include the aggregate year-to-date totals.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so,

you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Contributions from individuals and persons other than political committees must be itemized if the aggregate total from the contributor exceeds \$200 in a calendar year. This means that the committee does not have a reporting requirement of a contribution until the aggregate total exceeds the \$200 threshold. (2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3)) Should a committee wish to disclose contributions that do not require itemization, it must do so on a separate Schedule A and report the total amount of unitemized contributions on Line

## GRAVES FOR CONGRESS PAGE 3

11(a)(ii) of the Detailed Summary Page. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i))

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Whyrick

Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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